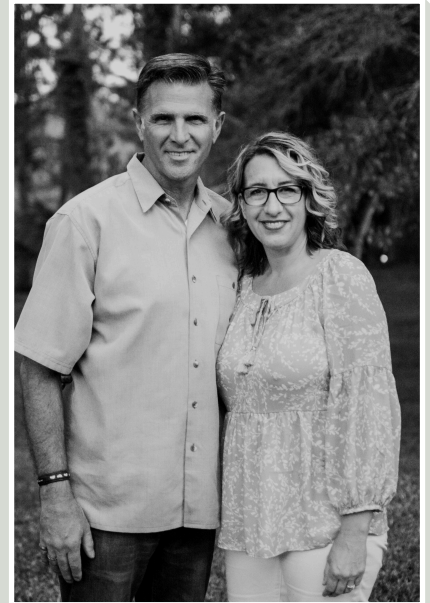


WINTER 2022

# HOLIDAY ADVENTURES



## A GLOBAL MOVEMENT OF DISCIPLE-MAKERS

*"I pray that they will all be one, just as You and I are one- as You are in Me, Father, and I am in You. And may they be in Us so that the world will believe You sent Me." John 17:21*

I first met with the Concentric (formerly GYI) leadership team back in 2004 when they were gathering in Orlando for meetings. Mark Tittle, then the director of Sonlife Africa, invited me to help him bring Sonlife training to East Africa. I'd made my first visit to Kenya 6 months earlier and was about to make my second visit. Mark stayed in our home, and we had no idea then the journey God would lead us on. Months later, I met MaryFaith, and months after that we were living in Kenya to begin the adoption process.

I would eventually become the East Africa Regional Coordinator for J-Life, which led

to me being invited on Concentric's first Israel Life of Christ Study Tour in 2010. Eventually, I was invited to lead Sonlife in North America, which gave me the privilege of sitting around the table with Concentric's other continent-wide leaders from Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe and South America. These incredible leaders have been an incredible blessing in my life, encouraging and sharpening me with their wise counsel.

The Concentric Executive Team recently gathered in San Diego for meetings in advance of our April gathering in Turkey, and they day our meetings concluded,

February 24th, Russia invaded Ukraine. Dave Patty, to my right in the picture below, leads Josiah Venture and lives in the Czech Republic. Josiah Venture has 16



families and 5 singles serving in Ukraine, so Dave, the JV team, and the entire Concentric family...





# PRAYING FOR UKRAINE

...immediately began to pray!

On Monday, February 28th, we had an already scheduled quarterly Concentric Zoom Gathering, and together we prayed fervently for the Josiah Venture Team and their response to the crisis in Eastern Europe. What an amazing thing to pray together with 75 leaders from over 40 countries, all connected by technology across time zones and three full screens of faces on Zoom!

I recently received this short update from Dave Patty about their front lines efforts to respond to the crisis.

*"We just sent out bus #24 to Lviv to pick up people, and have delivered 45 tons of food and supplies so far. It is being transferred in vans and cars from our hubs in western Ukraine all the way to the front*

*lines of the war in Kiev and other cities. Pray for the safety of the drivers, and for strength for our team. Never planned on doing refugee work."*

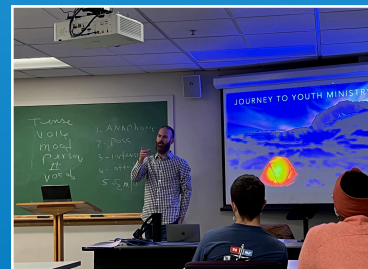
Josiah Venture has teams in Ukraine's neighboring countries of Moldova, Hungary, Slovakia, Poland, the Czech Republic, Latvia and Estonia, and all these teams have been mobilized to receive refugees and respond to the needs. Josiah Venture runs youth camps in most of these countries and has turned those facilities into transitional housing for refugees. Not only are they caring for the very real physical needs, they are also caring for the emotional and spiritual needs as they share the love of Jesus! Within a few short days, an outpouring of support brought in over \$1,000,000 to help JV's team respond to the needs.



Pastor Wiljean stayed with us for the first two weeks of February, connecting with friends and supporting churches here in FL.



Jen and Doug traveled to Fresno, CA to visit family and connect with the leadership at Campus Bible Church. We felt spoiled with our upgrade to first class to CA :)



I had the privilege of sharing with Sonlife team member Josh Edwards youth ministry class at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago.



The Concentric Leadership Team at our last in-person gathering, pre-pandemic, in Switzerland 2019.

## SONLIFE UPDATE

As we stepped into 2022, we made the strategic decision to move our Sonlife offices from Portland, OR to Orlando, FL. Our operations team in Portland has done an amazing job over the past seven years, but as they transition into new ministry roles, it will be important for me to be more hands on with our day-to-day operations. We are partnering with a missions agency here in Orlando for the HR and support-raising needs of the team, and we are moving our Sonlife store to a print-on-demand service provider. I've spent the last six weeks traveling around the country to meet with the Sonlife team to help them navigate through all of our leadership and organizational transitions. What an incredible team God has given us! We're truly excited about where the Father is leading us!!!

*Serving Christ together, Doug and Jennifer*

**Connecting with Sonlife staff in Portland, mountain biking in 35 degree weather!**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL PRAYERS AND GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR FAMILY AND MINISTRY!**